

# Nature-based Solutions

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# Global Biodiversity Agenda

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A series of webinars for Proteus Partners sharing information and insights into the latest trends and developments in biodiversity and ecosystem services policy, initiatives, data and tools.

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# UNEP-WCMC

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UNEP-WCMC is a global Centre of excellence on biodiversity. The Centre operates as a collaboration between the UN Environment Programme and the UK-registered charity WCMC. Together we are confronting the global crisis facing nature.

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# proteus

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A collaboration to make available  
global information on biodiversity

Partnership with 13 extractive  
industry members

[www.proteuspartners.org](http://www.proteuspartners.org)

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**BHP**



**ExxonMobil**



**RioTinto**



# Nature-based Solutions

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- What are Nature-based Solutions (NbS)?
  - Policy context
  - Why NbS is relevant for Business?
  - Resources
  - Discussion
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# What are NbS?

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*“actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that **address societal challenges** **effectively** and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits” - IUCN*

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# What are NbS?

- Broad concept with various definitions
- Umbrella term
- Potential for multiple benefits
- In a climate change context:
  - ecosystem-based climate change mitigation
  - ecosystem-based climate change adaptation
- Can replace or complement other approaches



# Examples of NbS

- Mangrove restoration instead of engineered sea defences for protection of coastal assets (*Replacement*)
- Restoring reefs to reduce the need for breakwater construction (*Integrated/Hybrid*)
- Forest restoration to reduce siltation of hydropower dams and reduce dredging costs (*Complementary*)



# Policy Context

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Where does the emphasis on NbS come from? Why now?

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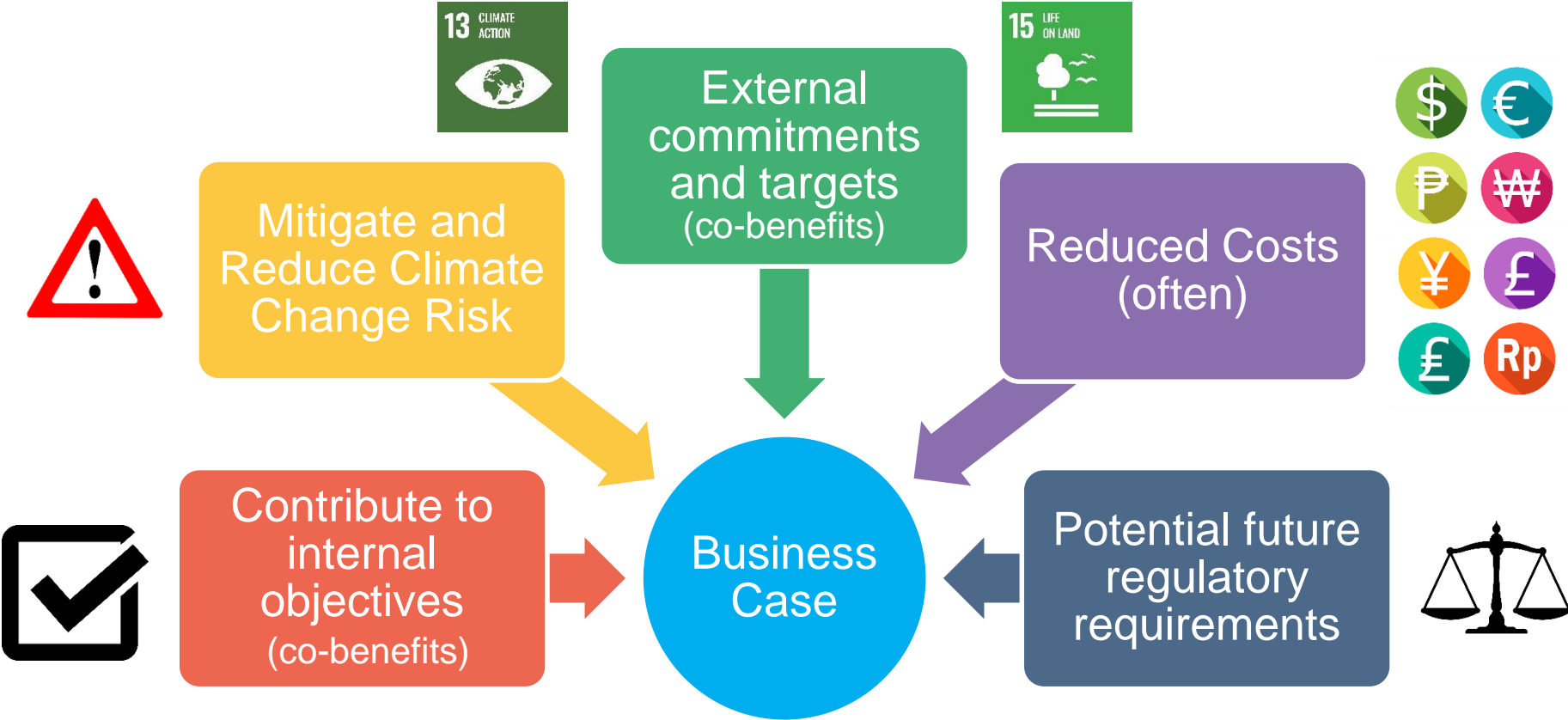
An aerial photograph of a city intersection with a roundabout. Three dark blue, cloud-shaped callouts are overlaid on the image, containing text. The callouts are positioned at the top, right, and bottom of the frame.

International

Regional /  
National / Sub-  
national

Company

# Why are NbS relevant to Business?



# Why are NbS relevant to Business?

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**Co-benefits** that can align with and deliver aspirations e.g.

- Biodiversity
  - Local livelihoods
  - Carbon sequestration
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# Itaipu Dam, Paraguay/Brazil

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## Climate-related Hazards

- Soil erosion
- Drought

## The Problem

- Loss of function due to sedimentation and reduced water supply
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# Itaipu Dam

## Actions

- Watershed forest restoration
- Wider watershed management

## Outcomes

- Reduced dredging costs
- More consistent water supply

## Co-benefits

- Biodiversity conservation
- Carbon stored in restored forest
- Support for local livelihoods
- Cultural value



# Other NbS Examples

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- Watershed management through participation in Water Funds
  - Using hybrid approaches to reduce erosion around railway bridge piers
  - Constructed wetlands for water treatment
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# Resources

- Projects and initiatives assembling experience
- Guidance and guidelines
- Tools



# Discussion

# Thank you

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Youtube: UNEP-WCMC Communications

# Logistics

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- **Frequency:** Quarterly
  - **Scheduling:** AM & PM sessions
  - **Rules:** Chatham House rule for discussion, but presentation is recorded
  - **Topics:** Your suggestions are welcome
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# Credits and Selected References

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UNEP-WCMC Office in Cambridge © UNEP-WCMC  
Moorhen © UNEP-WCMC Stephanie Foote

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